

Alexander von Branca - 1982

Regensburg Erbprinzenpalais

Signature: bra-230

Name of project: Erbprinzenpalais Regensburg

Drawings: 139

Semesterarbeit von Beatrice Brinchi Giusti
im Rahmen des Seminars

'Architektur sammeln, dokumentieren und präsentieren
- Der Architekt Alexander von Branca im Archiv des
Architekturmuseums' im Sommersemester 2019



Germany



Regensburg

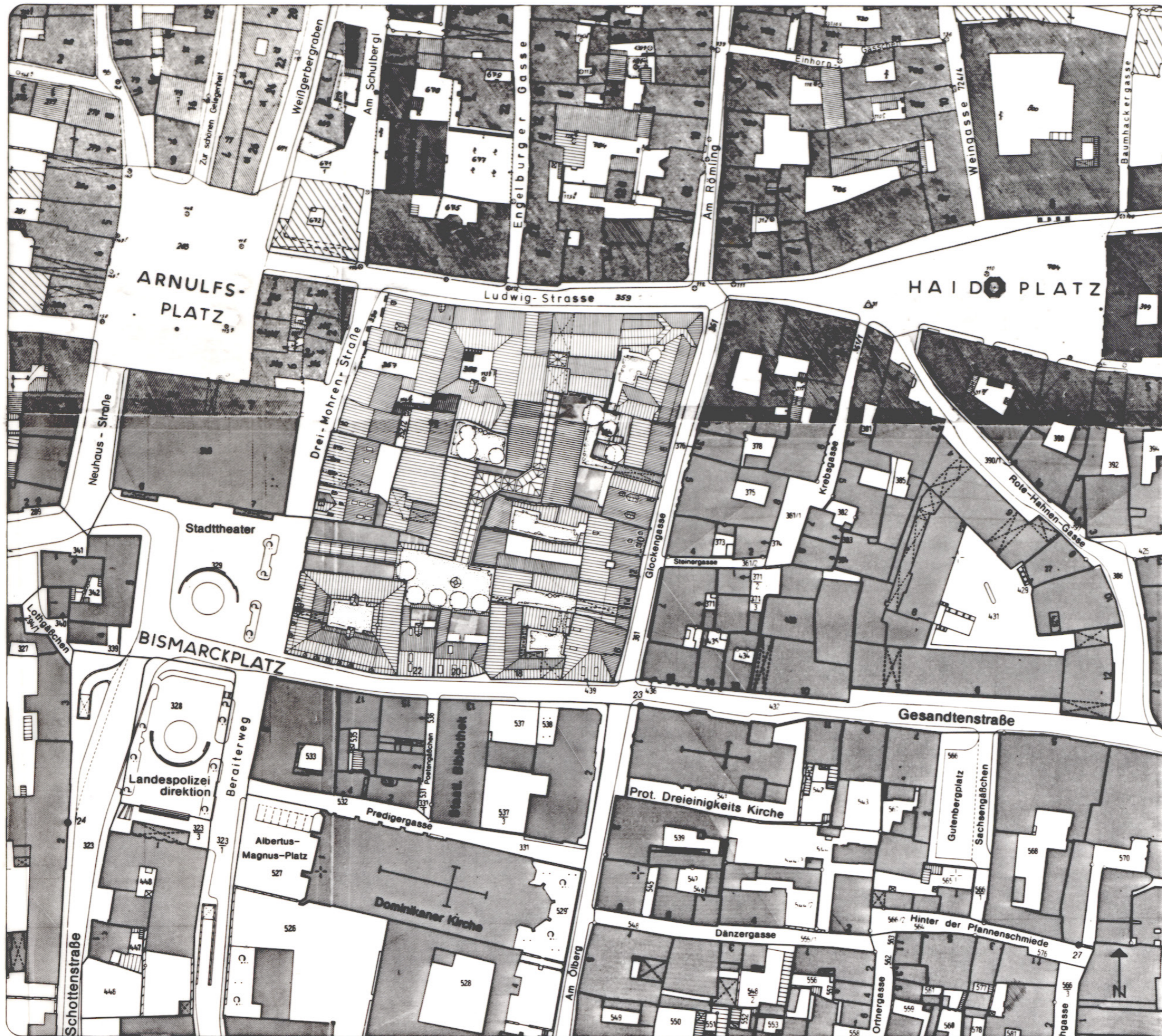


Localization

The analyzed building is located in the historic center of the city of Regensburg, Germany



Aerial picture - GoogleMaps



Site plan - 1:1000 - 1982

Localization

Regensburg is a city in south-east Germany, at the confluence of the Danube, Naab and Regen rivers. With more than 150,000 inhabitants, it's the fourth-largest city in the State of Bavaria and its medieval centre is a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2006.

The former Prüfeninger Hof marks a significant urban corner in the structure of the old town. Its south facade lines the beginning of the Gesandtenstraße, which opens up the interior of the old town, while the more representative west facade is a key feature of the appearance of Bismarckplatz.

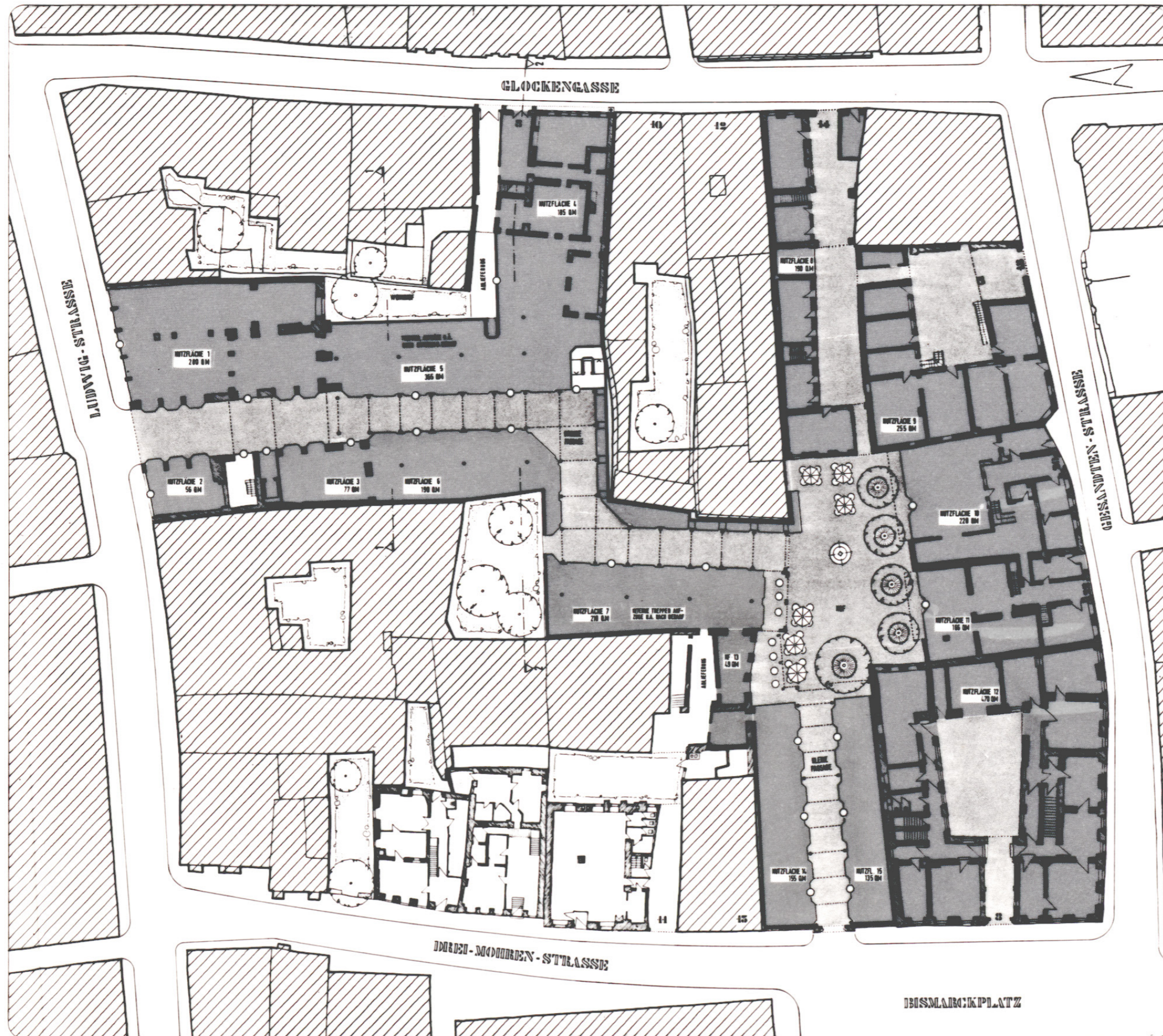
SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT AM BISMARCKPLATZ IN REGENSBURG	
BAUHERR:	FURST THURN U TAXIS RENTKAMMER REGENSBURG, EMMERAMSPLATZ 7
ARCHITEKT:	A. FRHR. V. BRANCA, MÜNCHEN DIPL.ING. ARCH. MITARBEITER: M.OSTERMAYER W. JUNGINGER
VORENTWURF LAGEPLAN	MÄRZ '83 M 1:1000

History

The palace was built in 1701 under abbot Otto Krafft von Prüfening as the city seat of the former benedictine monastery instead of a medieval predecessor. However, the stately baroque four-wing complex seems to have been used mainly as a guest house. After the secularisation of Prüfening Monastery, the Bavarian customs inspection moved into the building. As early as 1815, however, it fell into private hands. In 1862 Haus Thurn und Taxis acquired the palace for the heir to the throne Maximilian Anton. The name „Hereditary Prince’s Palace“, which is still in use today, is derived from this. In 1918 the Princely House rented the palace to the city of Regensburg and in 1937 to the Free State of Bavaria.



Bismarckplatz - GoogleMaps - Paweł Izyk - 2017



Ground floor plan - 1:400 - 1982

The renovation

In 1985/86 the complex was renovated by Alexander von Branca. The architect was responsible for reorganising the internal layout of some of the buildings of the complex (colored in gray in the drawing) adapting them to future uses. Much interest was also spent on the design of the outdoor areas, to which he has dedicated special attentions.

ZUSAMMENSTELLUNG DER GEWERBLICHEN NUTZFLÄCHEN

ERDGESCHOSS	TEILFLÄCHE	NEUBAU QM	ALTBAU QM
	NF 1		200
	NF 2		56
	NF 3		77
	NF 4		186
	NF 5	305	
	NF 6	190	
	NF 7	210	
	NF 8		190
	NF 9		255
	NF 10	120	100
	NF 11	50	110
	NF 12		420
	NF 13		48
	NF 14	155	
	NF 15	135	
SUMME ERDGESCHOSS		1725 QM	1778 QM
SUMME 1. OBERGESCHOSS		110 (571) QM	1000 QM
SUMME UNTERGESCHOSS		745 QM	
SUMME UG, EG, 1. OG		2640 (2942) QM	2878 QM

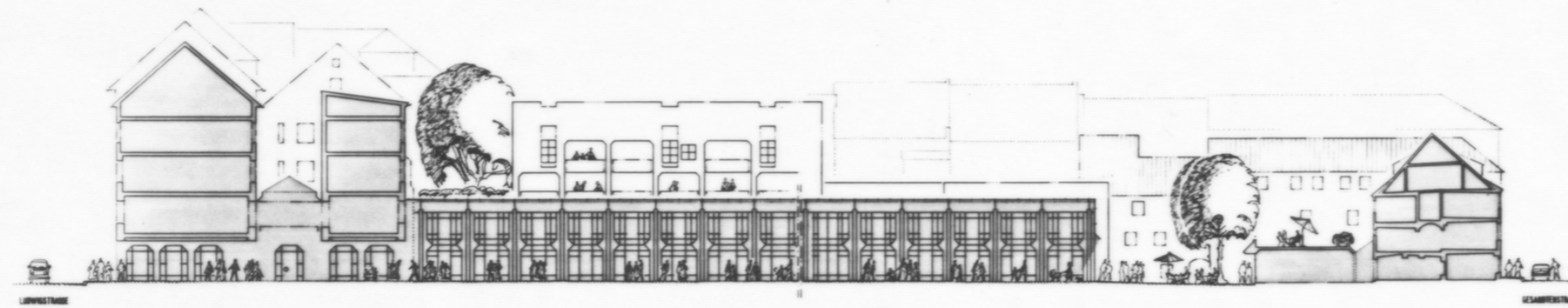
SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT AM BISMARCKPLATZ IN REGENSBURG

BAUHERR FÜRST THURN U. TAXIS RENTKAMMER
REGENSBURG, EMMERAMSPLATZ 7
ARCHITEKT A. FRHR. V. BRANCA, MÜNCHEN DIPL. ING. ARCH.
MITARBEITER: MÖSTERMAYER W. JUNGINGER

VORENTWURF MÄRZ '83
ERDGESCHOSS M 1: 400

The passage

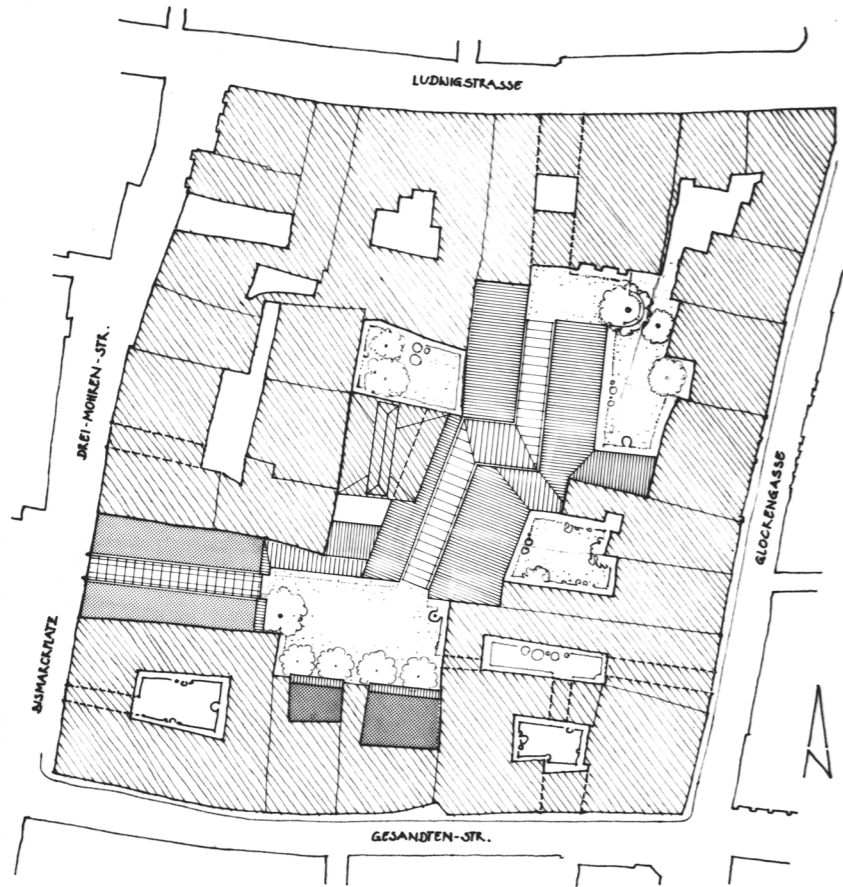
An important object of design was for Von Branca also the passage. He had to create a roof for the passage that crossed the complex of buildings, and that connected the large courtyard with the outside. The architect studied various roofing options and he finally opted for a glass roof, capable of repairing and protecting the passers-by below while still ensuring an adequate lighting, so as to make the space pleasant for those who pass through and not narrow and dangerous. In the following drawings we can see how he thought of different shape options for the passage, also slightly changing the arrangement of the conglomerates built around it. Presumably the latest version, the „F“, is the one chosen by him at a final moment.



WESTANSICHT PASSAGE



OSTANSICHT PASSAGE



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE A
MÜNCHEN, IM DEZ. 1981

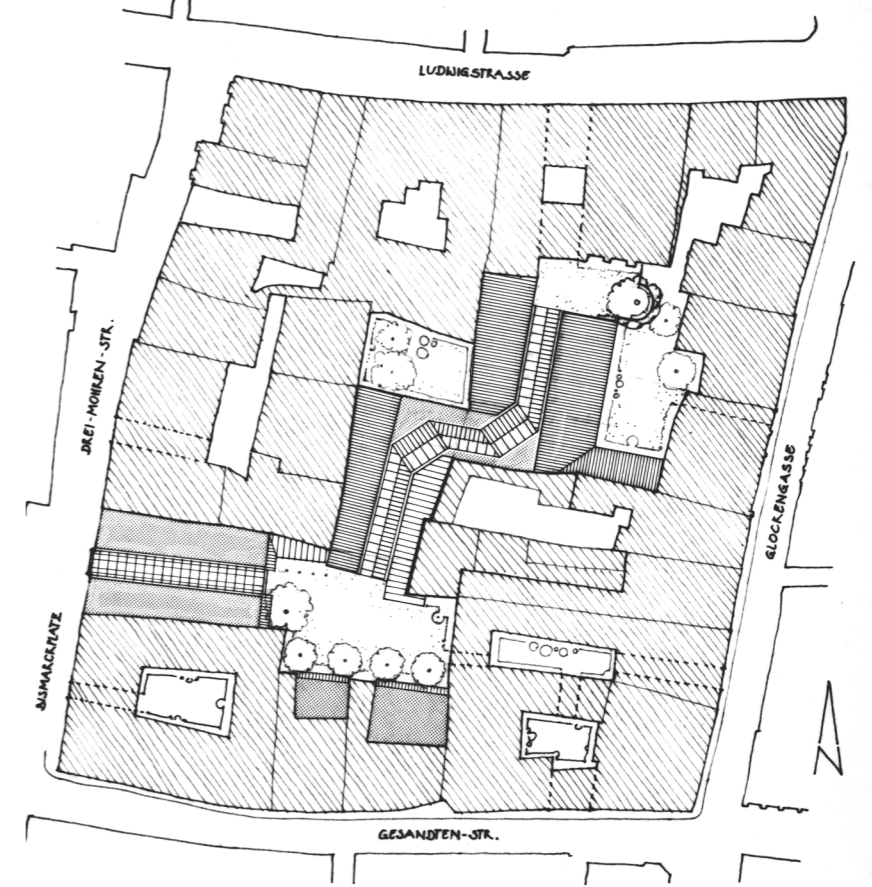
ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE B
MÜNCHEN, IM DEZ. 1981

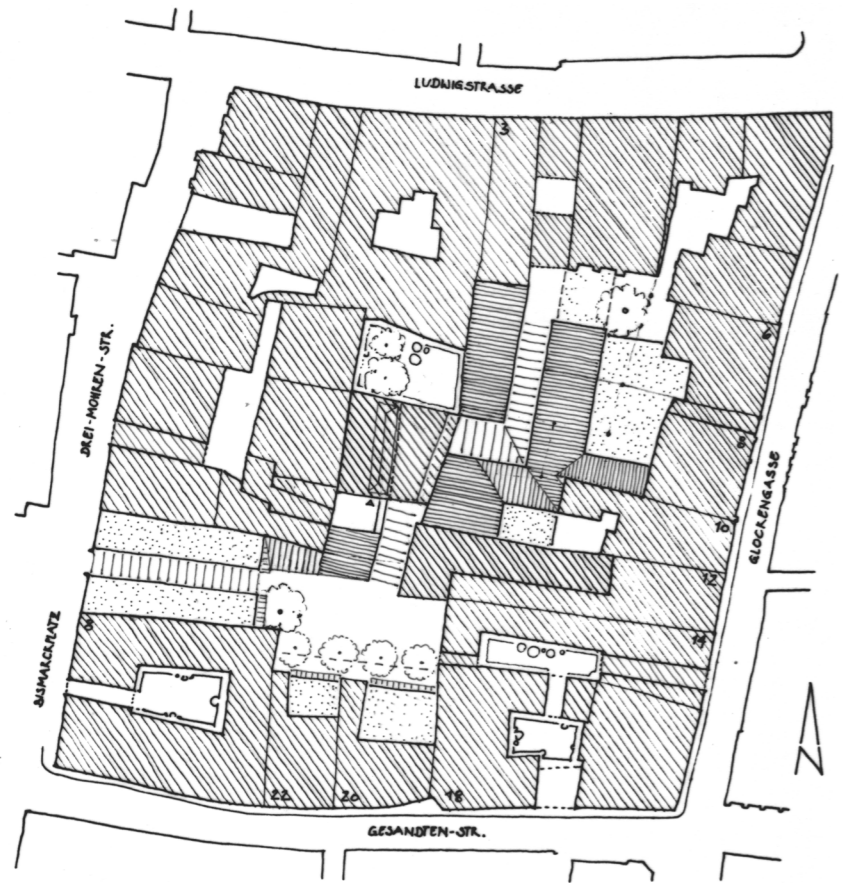
ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE C
MÜNCHEN, IM DEZ. 1981

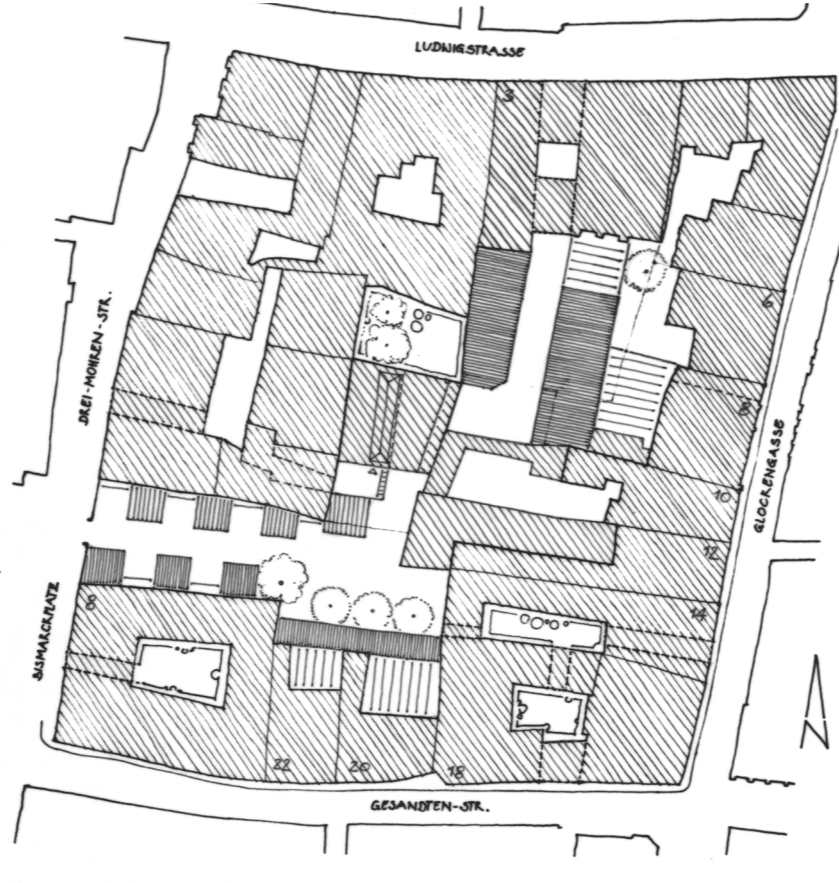
ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE D
MÜNCHEN, IM JUNI 1982

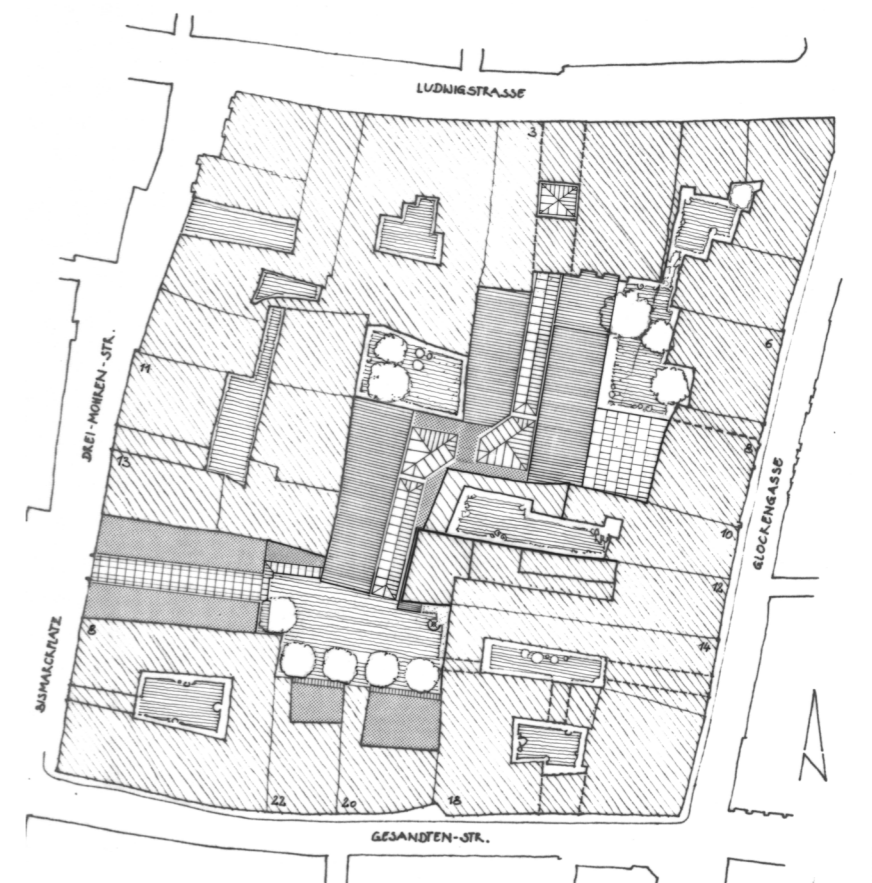
ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE E1
ANFANGSTUFE: OHNE
NACHBARGRUNDSTÜCKE
MÜNCHEN, IM JUNI 1982

ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



• FÜRST THURN UND TAXIS REGENSBURG •

SANIERUNG GEBÄUDEGEVIERT A. BISMARCKPLATZ
LAGERPLAN M 1:500
VARIANTE F
MÜNCHEN, IM JAN. 1983

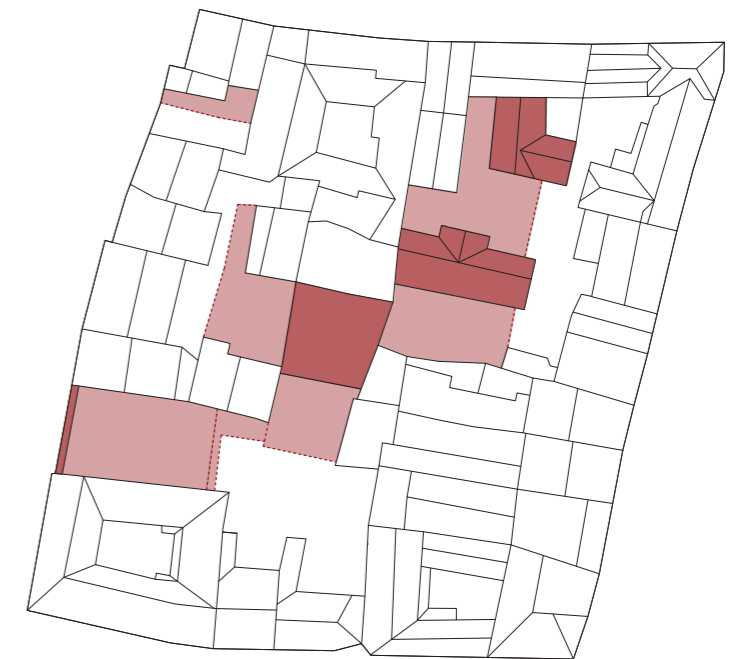
ALEXANDER FÖRST + BRANCA
DIPLOM-ARCHITECTEN G.D.A.
MÜNCHEN, N. 80
GAUSS-STRASSE 1
TELEFON 360981



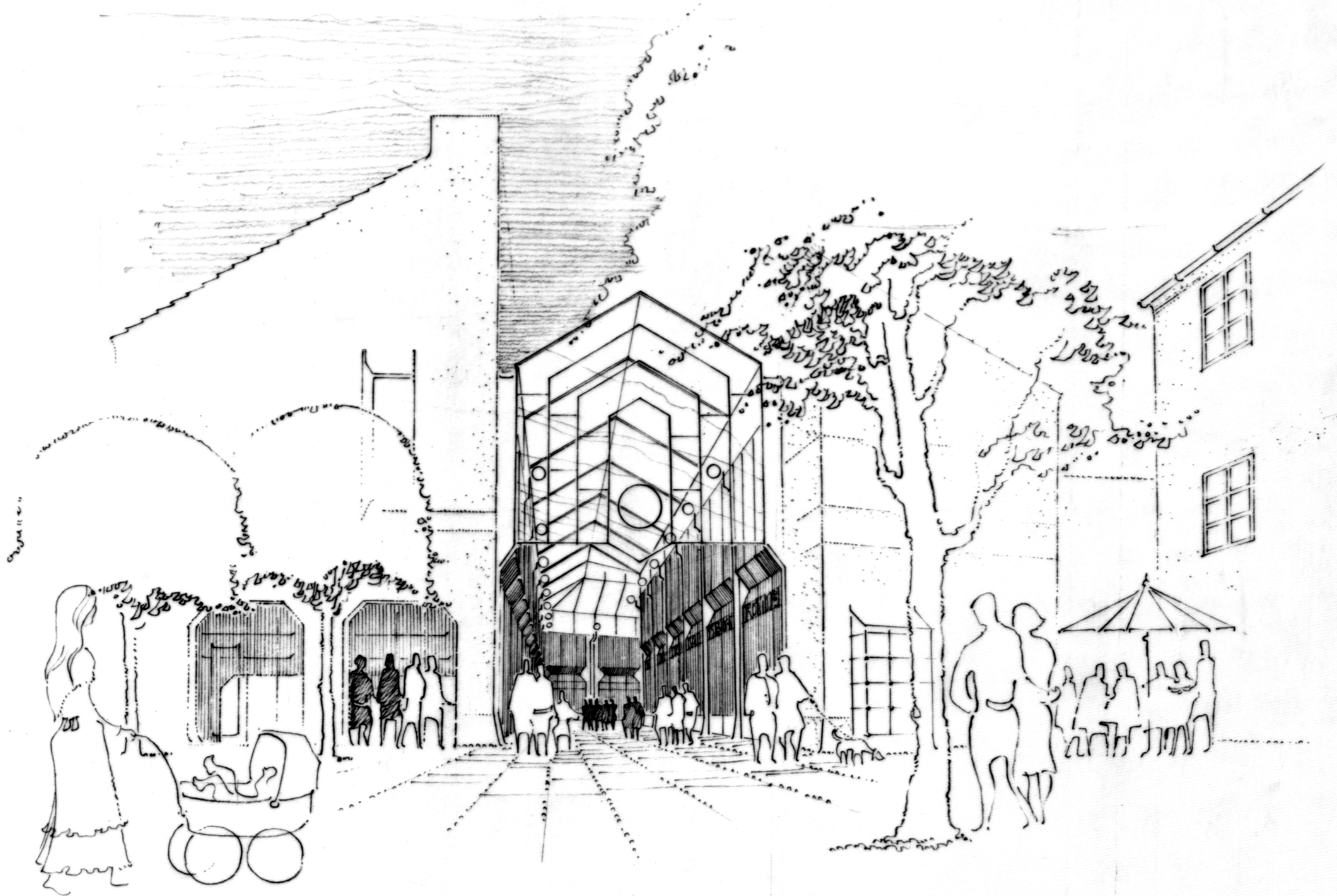
Today site plan

Today's situation

The drawing on the left shows how the complex looks today, according to aerial photos of the city of Regensburg taken in 2019. As you can also see from the diagram below many buildings are different than they were at the time when Alexander Von Branca worked on this area. The whole fabric of the complex has nowadays changed. As well as making assumptions based on the drawings we can find, it is therefore very difficult to understand what the decisive path taken by the architect was.



■ New buildings ■ Demolished buildings

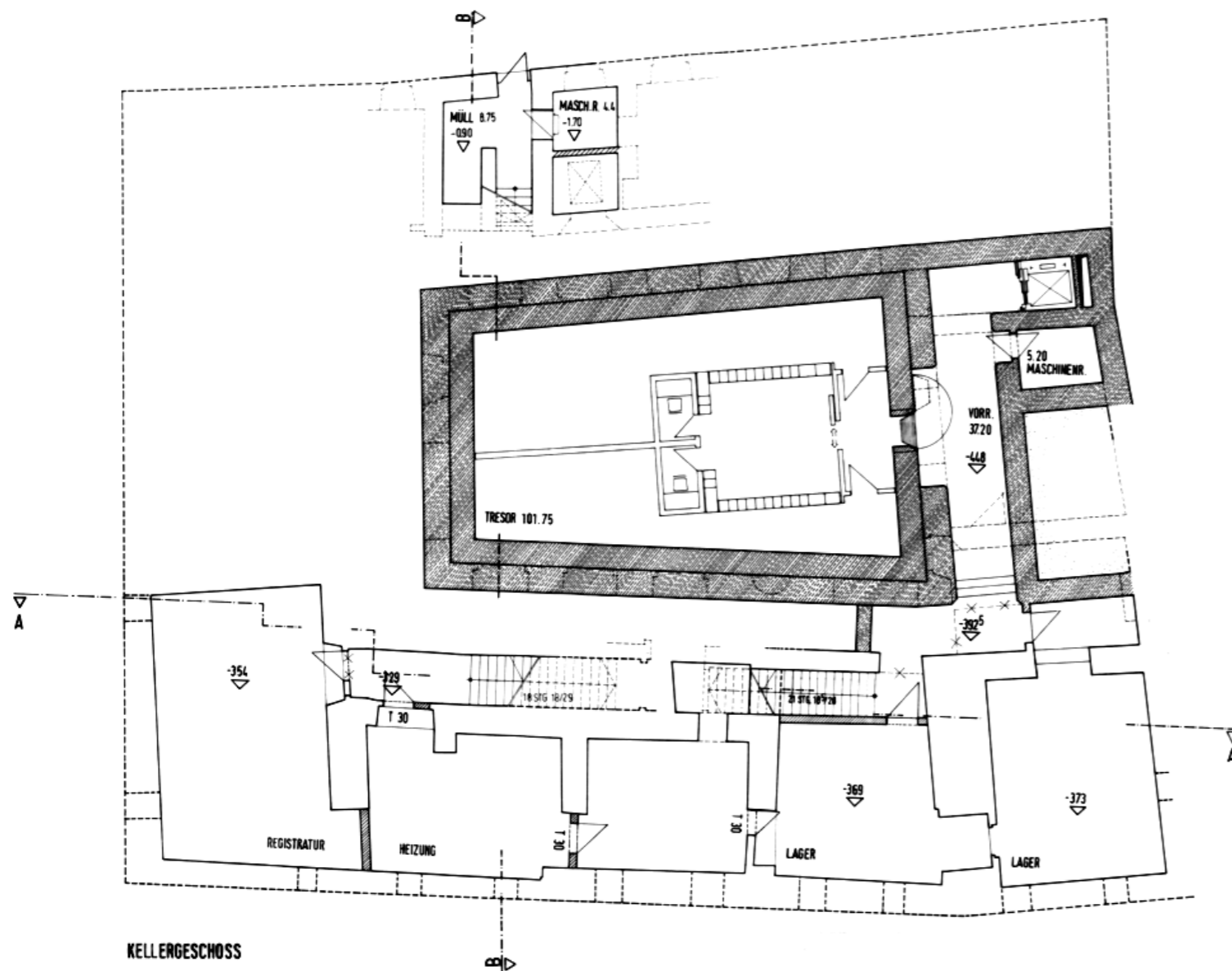


In addition to the planimetric drawings, Alexander Von Branca also used various perspective sketches, with the aim of understanding how the different possibilities fit into the pre-existing architectural space. Its perspectives are also always populated, which means that the architect assigns the human being an important value.

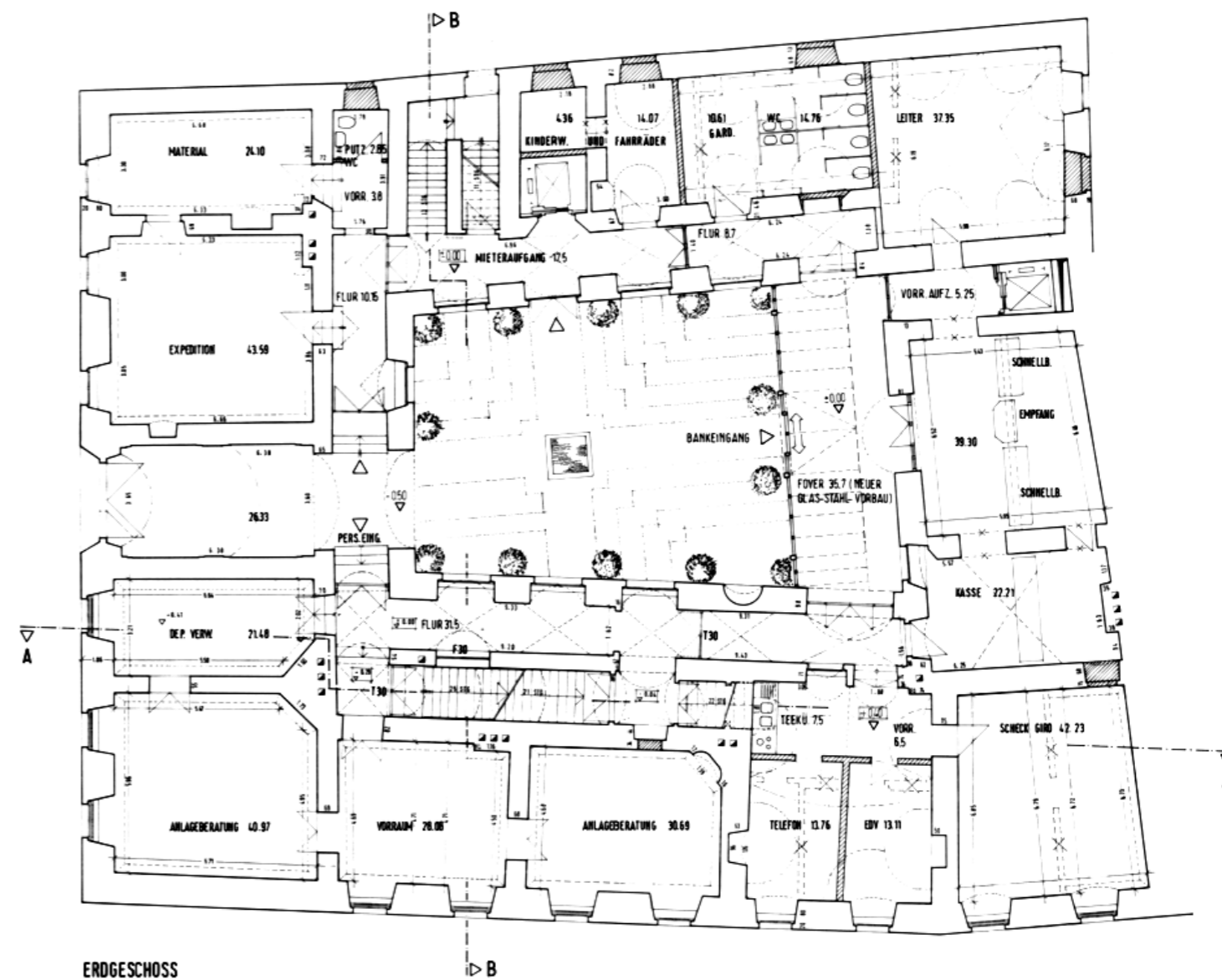
A new layout for the bank building

This is certainly the building that Von Branca has taken most care, as evidenced by the number of studies and drawings that concern it. It is a regularly shaped building with a central courtyard and it's located in the lower left corner of the complex. It is plausible to believe that the architect has restructured it, repairing the signs of the time and probably changing the internal layout, preparing it for the next use for which it was intended, a bank, a function that has remained until today.

Therefore, in the basement there are the technical rooms and, in correspondence with the central court, the bank's deposit. On the ground floor there is the lovely patio, which is accessed through an arched entrance, the main entrance of the bank and all areas open to the public.



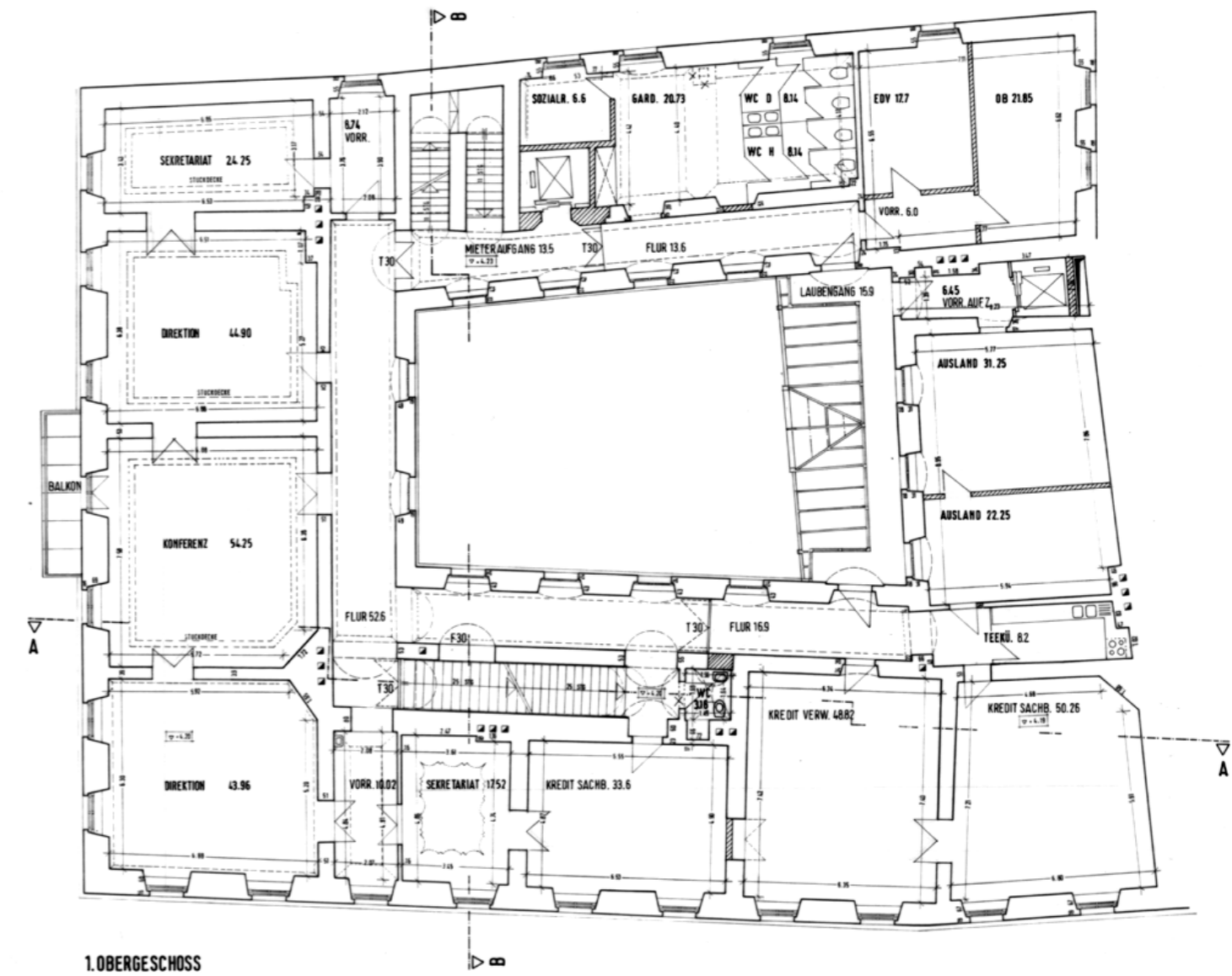
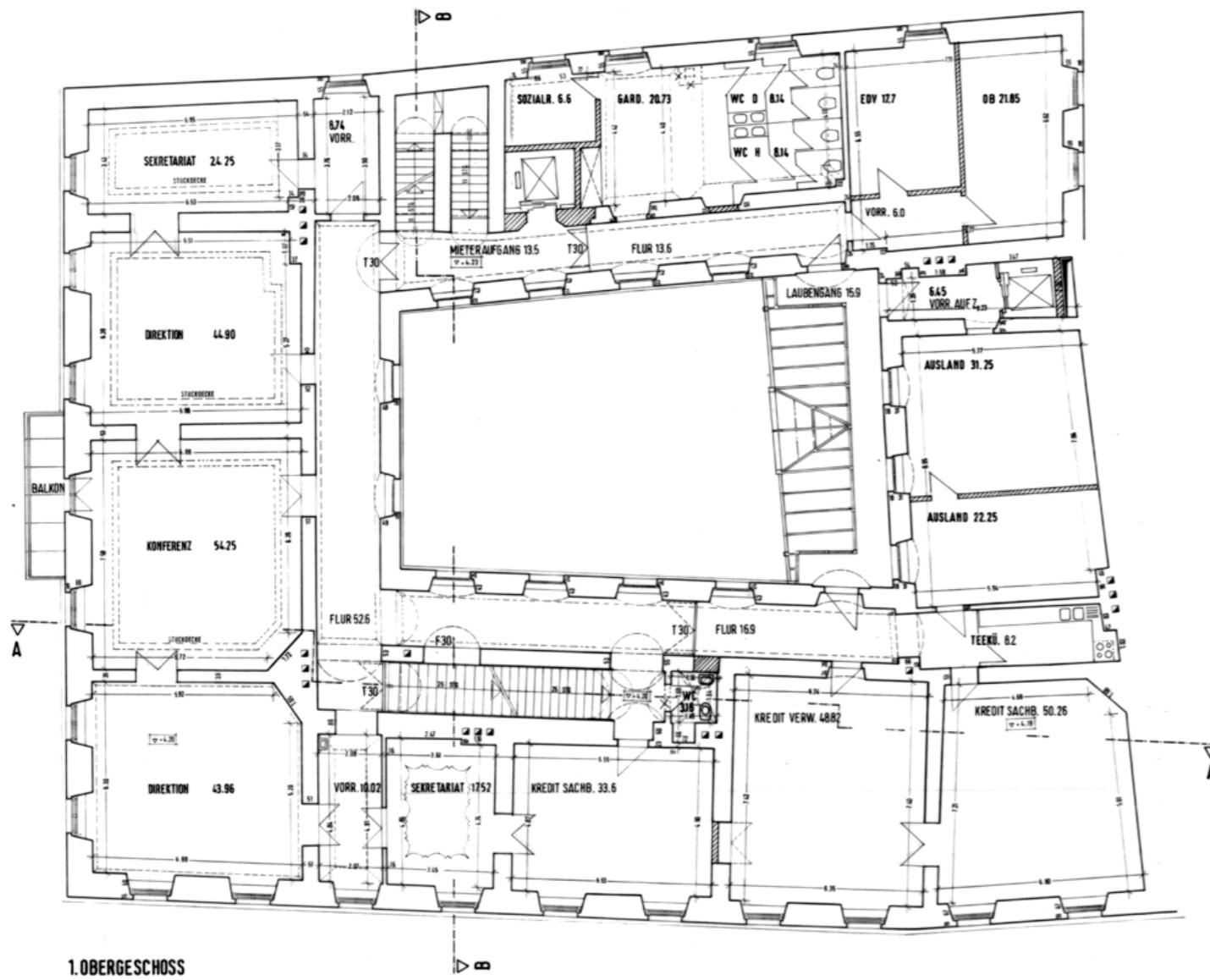
Floor plan - Basement - 1:100 - 1982



Floor plan - Ground floor - 1:100 - 1982

A new layout for the bank building

The upper floors lead up to the more technical and administrative rooms of the bank. These are therefore composed of different sized offices of different sizes placed in sequence and connected by a corridor that rotates around the central courtyard.

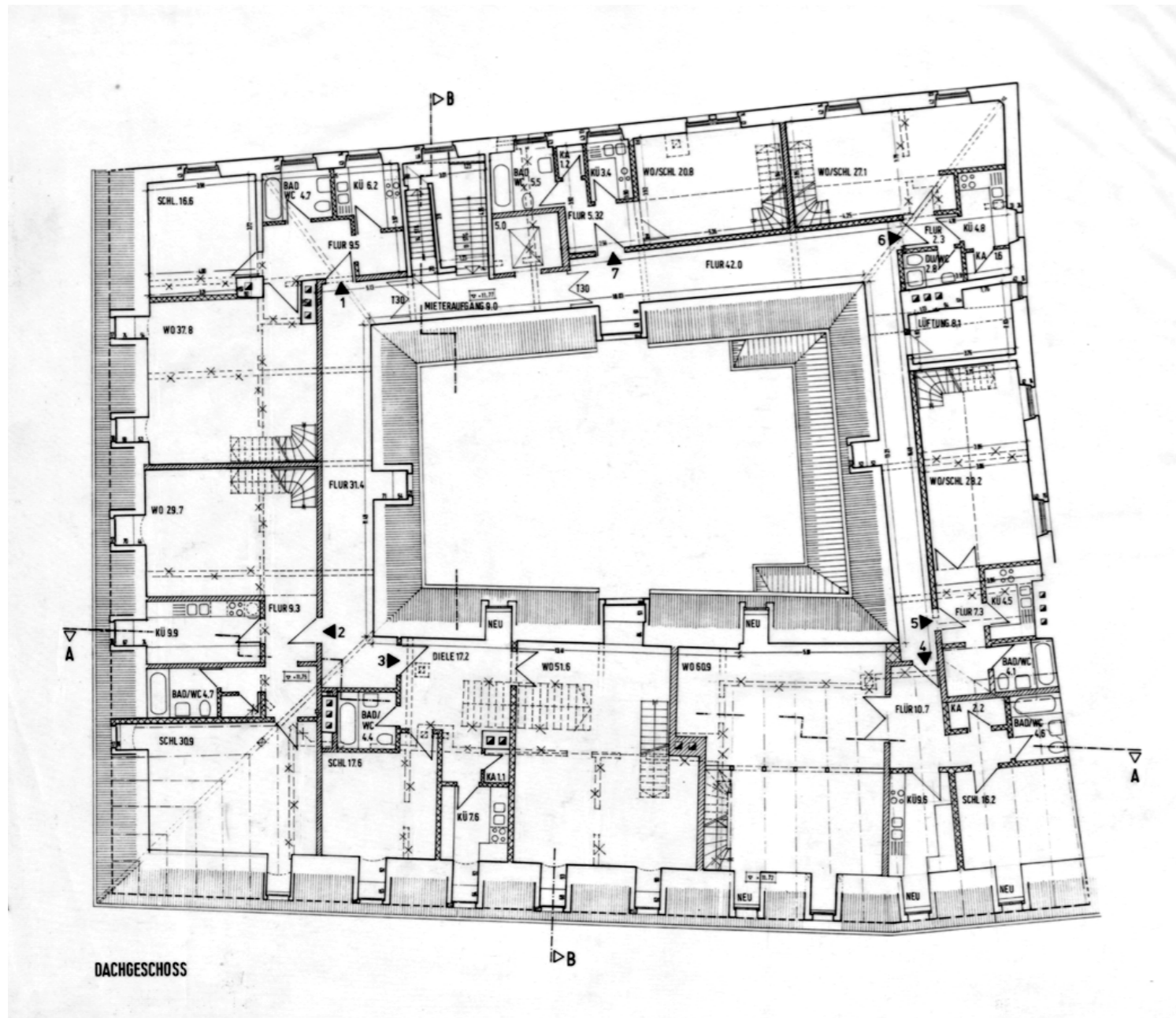


Floor plan - 1 floor - 1:100 - 1982

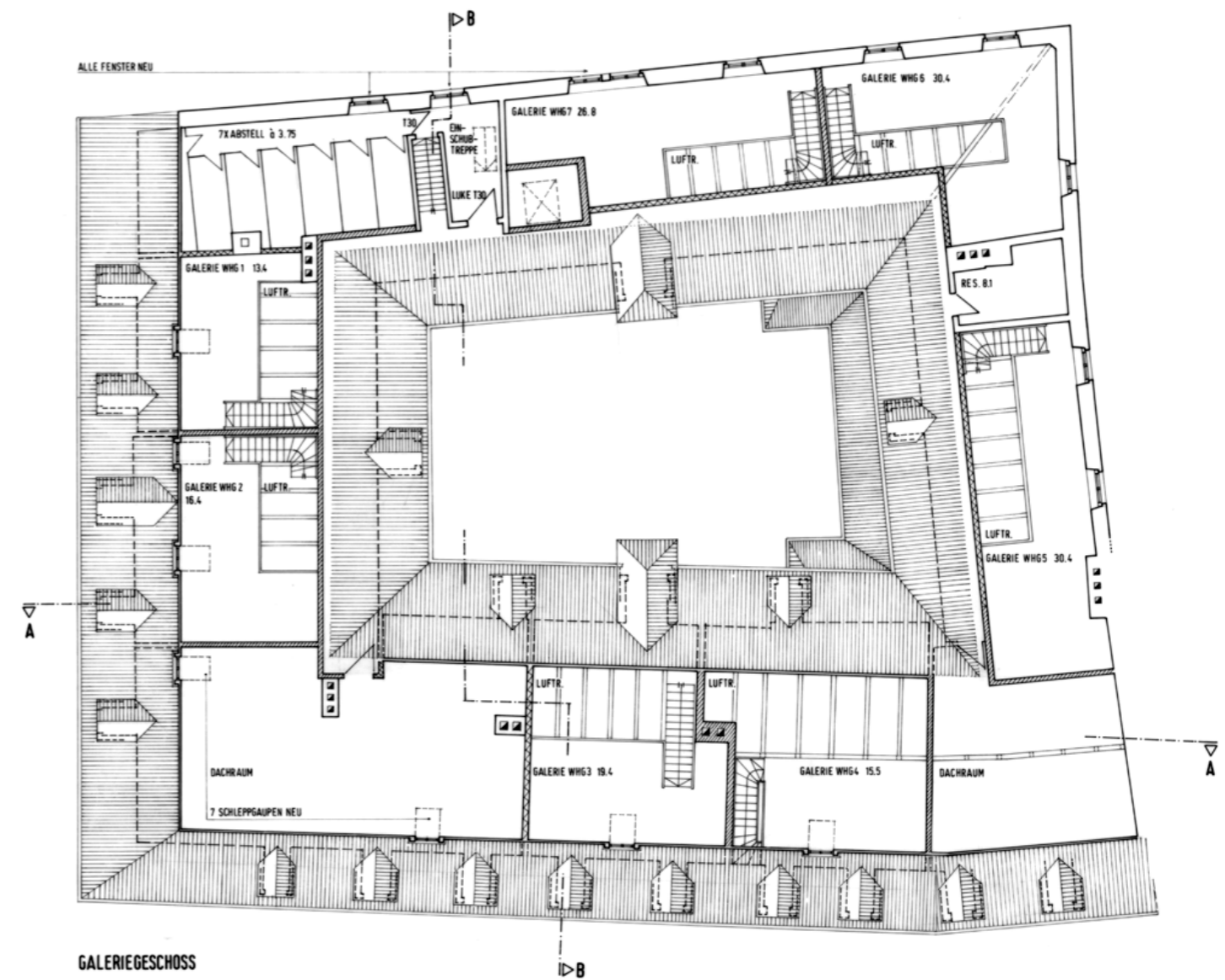
Floor plan - 2 floor - 1:100 - 1982

A new layout for the bank building

The upper floors consist of seven duplex apartments. These have different sizes and cuts but have all a staircase that connects the first floor with a room in the attic. We can therefore see how three different functions, commercial, administrative and residential, are combined in the same building.



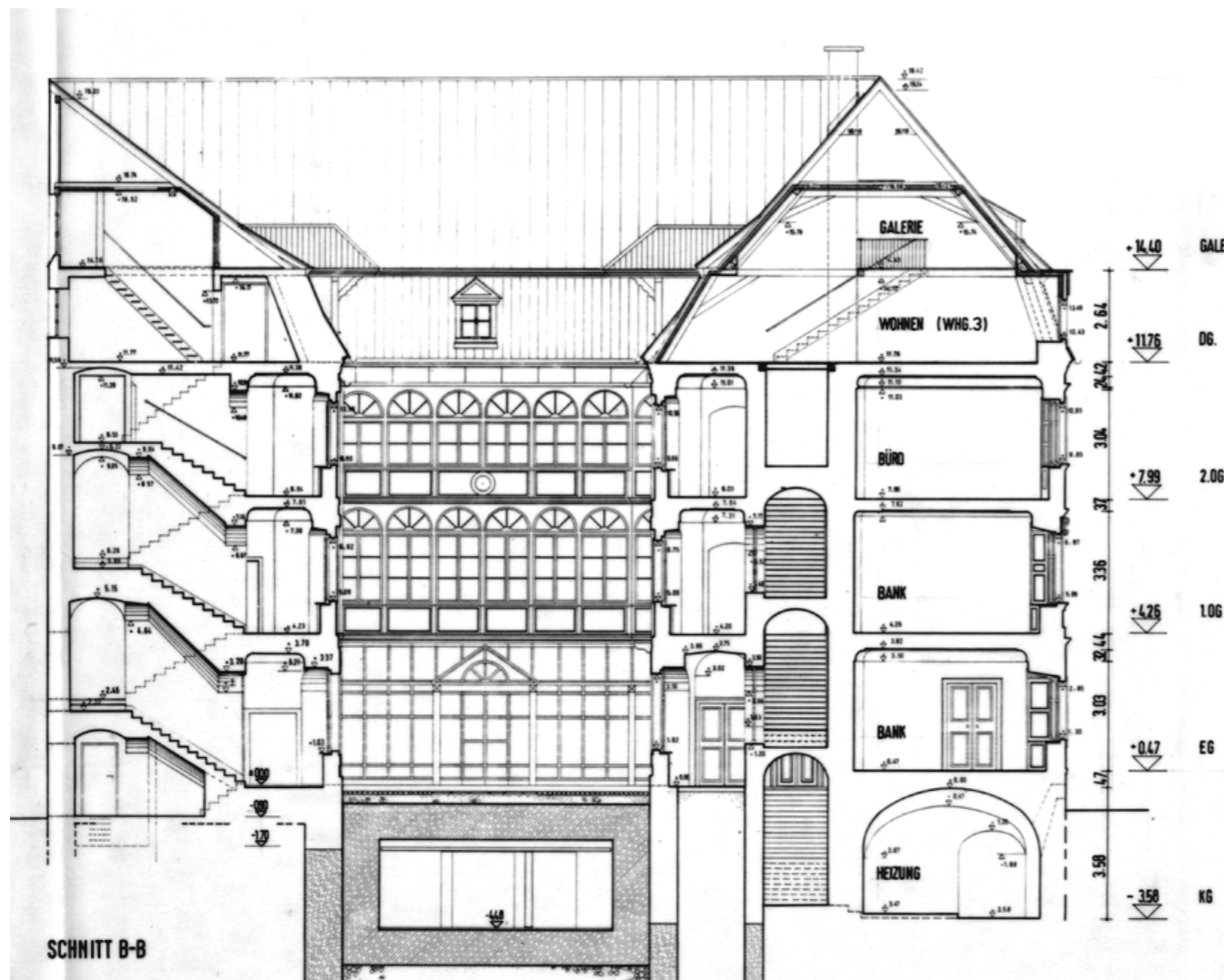
Floor plan - Attic floor - 1:100 - 1982



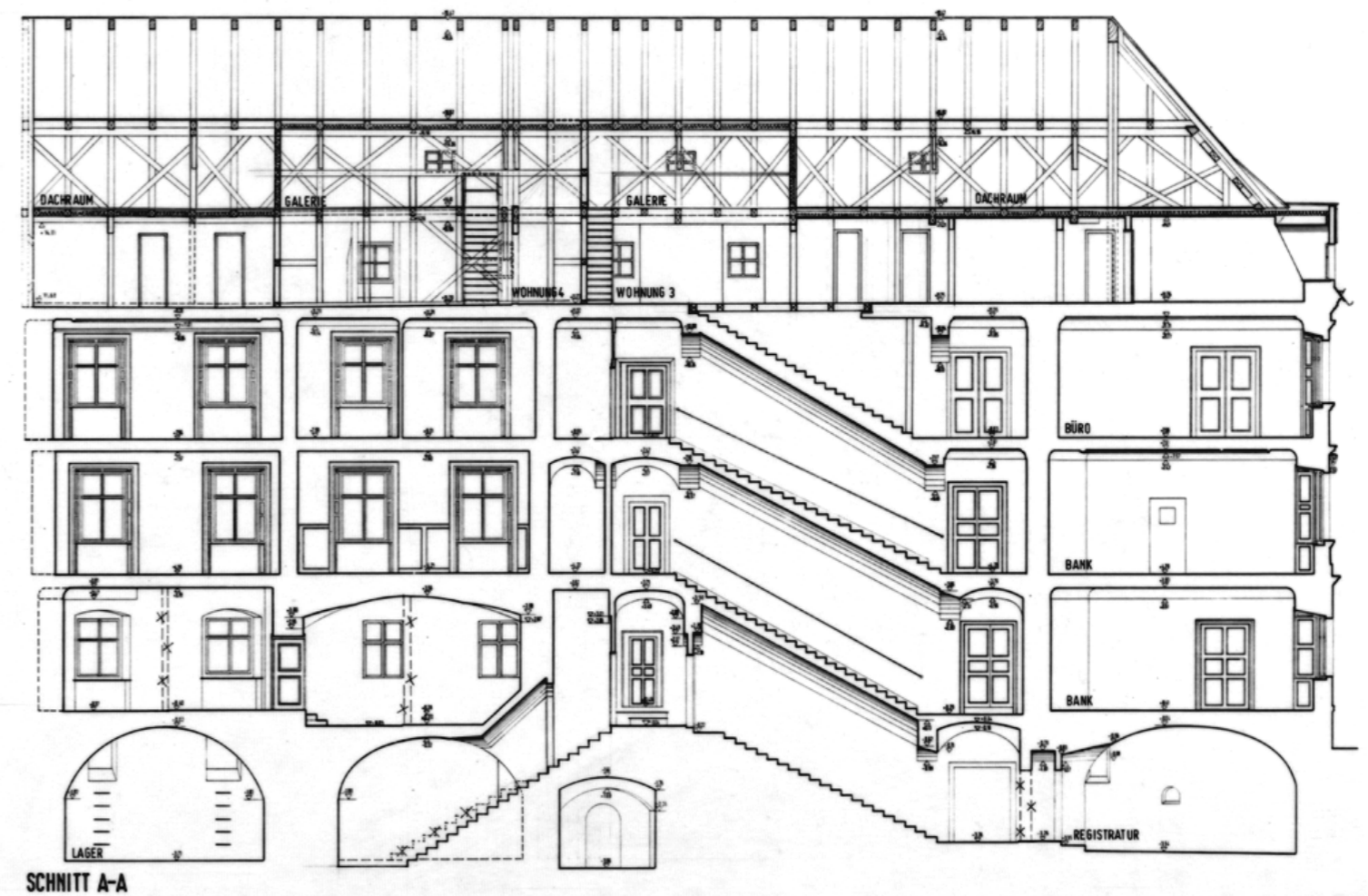
Floor plan - Gallery floor - 1:100 - 1982

The renovation

So it's evident how, since the Von Branca refurbishment, the building has served as a bank. The facade was renovated in the 19th century so that the palace, together with the former french consulate envoy and the municipal theatre, forms a classical whole. Inside the building, the original baroque sequence of rooms has been preserved to this day. On the eastern courtyard facade, the individual rooms can be reached via basket-arched, glazed arcades. The modern glazed entrance area on the ground floor refers to these from a design point of view. Between the first and second floors there is a striking clock on the eastern courtyard facade. After several historic 18th and 19th century rooms had been reconstructed in the upper floors prior to the renovation, special attention was paid to their professional conservation. Among other things, a rococo decoration was uncovered in the west wing and a rococo painting on the first floor of the south wing.



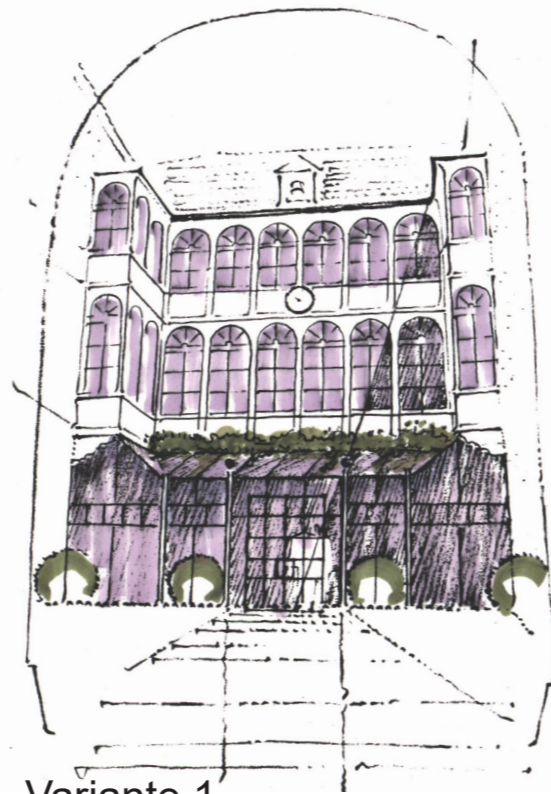
Section B-B - 1:100 - 1982



Section A-A - 1:100 - 1982

The internal courtyard

Von Branca was very interested in this inner court and especially in the visual impact of entering it. He dedicated several sketches and drawings trying to simulate the first impression a passer-by might have when entering the complex, taking care of the smallest details and studying different options, such as here with the vegetation. In fact, he made a lot of use of perspective to evaluate different design possibilities, as it is perhaps the representative method that most simulates the immersion in architectural space that is being shaped.



Variante 1



Variante 2



Variante 3



OSTEN

SÜDEN

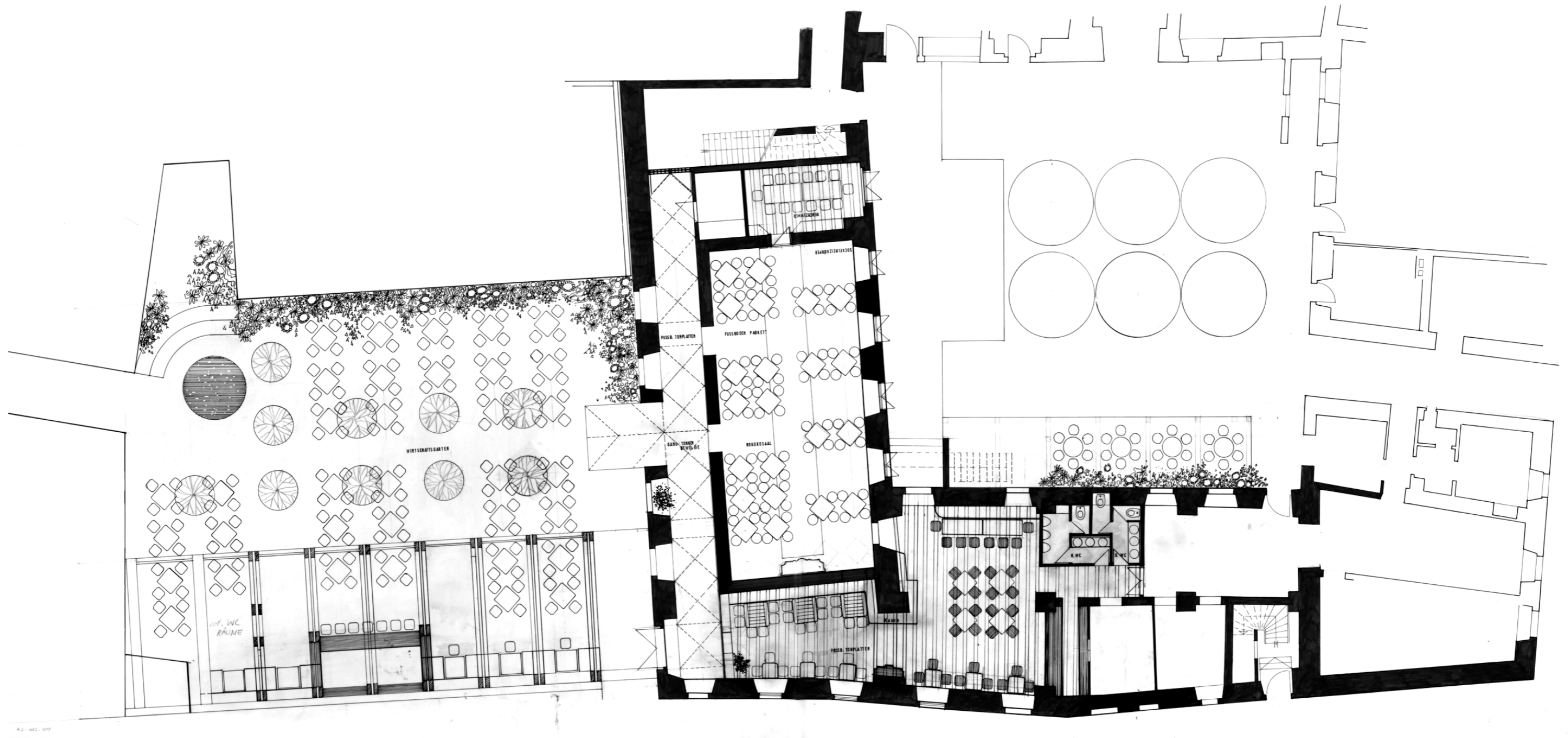
WESTEN

NORDEN

Inner court elevations - 1:100 - 1982

The adjacent building

The architect also focused on the redesign of other buildings in the complex, albeit with less dedication, such as this building, adjacent to the one analyzed above. Here the precision with which he goes to draw the external areas, calculating the necessary spaces for the furnishings and inserting the vegetation, stands out.



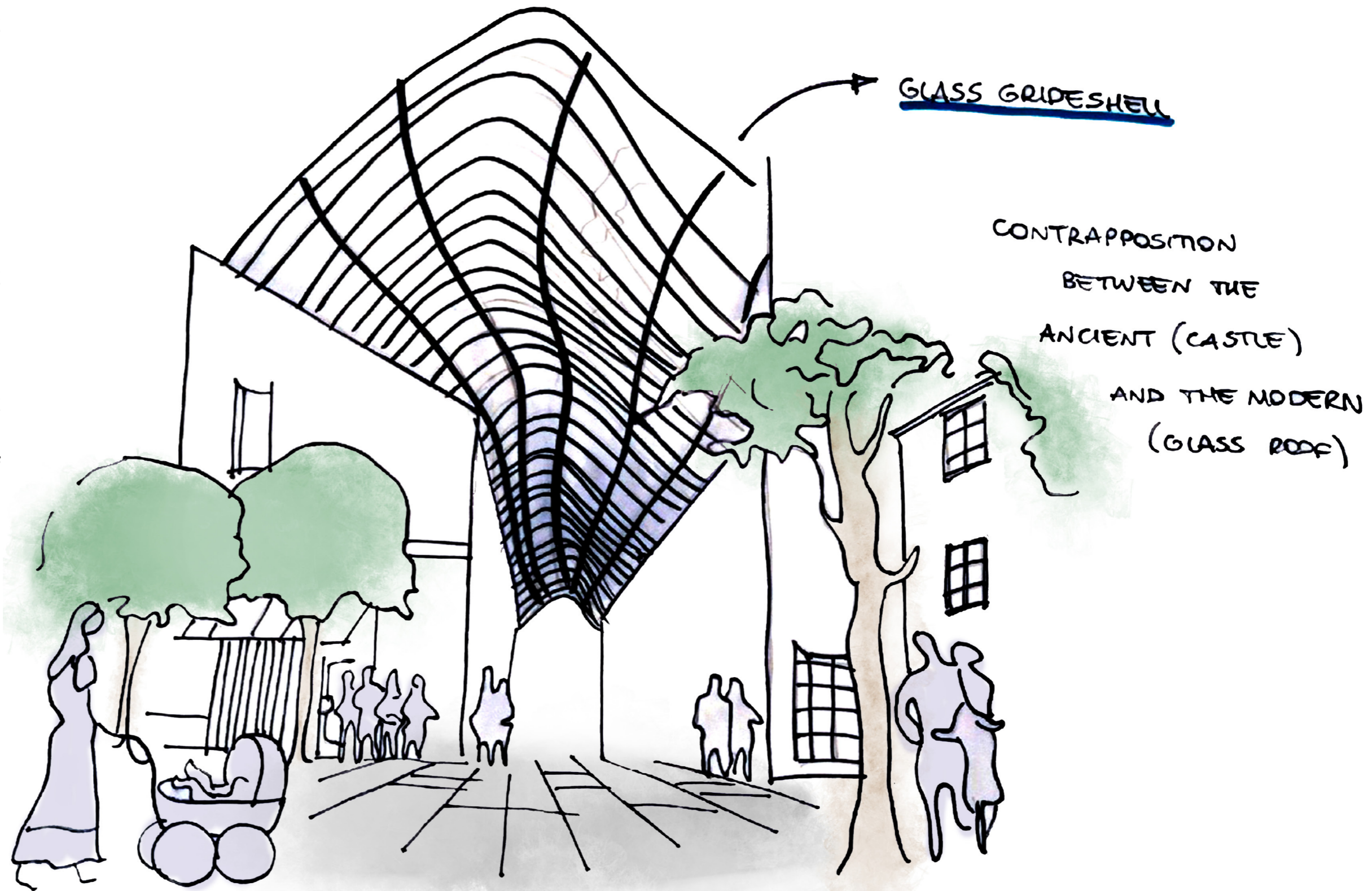
Floor plan - 1982

Modern interpretation

Analysing the work carried out by the architect Alexander von Branca on this pre-existing complex, I wondered how I would have intervened when I found myself in his position. I decided to focus especially on the covering of the passage, the part that fascinated me most about its design. By having to make it today, I would opt for a glass gridshell. In fact, I find interesting how, in an ancient building of classical architecture, the sinuous forms of this kind of modern architecture's structure can be merged and contrasted at the same time.



Existing similar structure - Naewoikorea.com



Design: Beatrice Brinchi Giusti